

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

March 18, 2019

The Honorable Bruce R. Beemer, Inspector General Office of the State Inspector General 8th Floor, Forum Place 555 Walnut Street Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101

RE: Review of Activities Related to the Operations of the Glen Mills Schools

Dear Inspector General Beemer:

As you may know, allegations have recently emerged regarding systemic abuse and mistreatment of children by staff at the Glen Mills Schools ("Glen Mills" or the "School"). Glen Mills is certified by the Department of Human Services ("Department") to provide residential and treatment services for dependent and delinquent children under Article IX of the Human Services Code, as amended ("Code"), 62 P.S. §§ 901-921, and regulations promulgated under that statutory authority at 55 Pa. Code Chapter 3800 (relating to child residential and day treatment facilities).

As part of a thorough examination of the alleged misconduct that occurred at Glen Mills, I am requesting that the Office of the State Inspector General ("OSIG") initiate and complete a review, within the scope of its authority under Act 29 of 2017, P.L. 328 (July 20, 2017), of the Department's processes and procedures in conducting inspections and reviews of the School as well as similar institutions.

The Department believes that your agency is in a better position, given your law enforcement role, to coordinate more directly with other investigations of the allegations against Glen Mills.

The requested review will be in addition to, not in lieu of, the Department's ongoing exercise of its statutorily mandated oversight responsibilities. Those responsibilities include the authority to certify, license, and oversee the operations of Glen Mills as a child residential and day treatment facility and to investigate reports of child abuse under the Child Protective Services Law ("CPSL"). See 23 Pa. Cons. Stat. §§ 6301-6386; 55 Pa. Code Chapter 3490. The Department will expeditiously complete its investigation and pursue all appropriate certification and licensure actions to address the recently reported allegations and any other issues that its investigation reveals. The Department also will promptly and thoroughly investigate all reports of child abuse against Glen Mills staff and in accordance with the CPSL and accompanying regulations.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please contact me if you or your office have any questions or need any additional information or assistance.

Sincerely.

Teresa D. Miller

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